

Perhaps these lines may be of some assistance to them.

In connection with this article we would refer readers to *The Australian Philatelist*, vol. 12, pages 11, 23 and 112; and *The Australian Journal of Philately*, vol. 4, page 3.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Katoomba, 9/10/07.

(To The Editor.)

Dear Sir,—In comparing my collection of perforated official stamps with list published in your journal, October issue, I find the following additional varieties :—

NEW SOUTH WALES.

O.S., wmk. Cr. over N.S.W., 8 holes, 1d.; 10 holes, ½d.
 " " Cr. " A. 8 " ½d., 1d., 2½d., 4d., 8d., 10d. (12 x 11).
 " " Cr. " A. Vict. paper, 8 holes, ½d., 1d.
 O.S.N.S.W., wmk. Cr. over N.S.W., 8 holes, 5d., watermarked sideways.
 " " " " " 8 " 9d.; Commonwealth O.S. twice.
 " " " " " 10 " 5/-.
 " " " " A. 8 " ½d., 2½d., 6d., 9d., 10d., 1/-.
 " " " " A Vict. paper, 8 holes, 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d.
 G.S.B. " " " " N.S.W., 5d.
 " " " " A. Vict. paper, 1d., 1/-.
 G.R., Perforations appear inverted, reversed, and inverted and reversed.
 T.A.S., O.S. wmk. V. and Cr., 2d., perforated twice.

Yours faithfully, F. NEAL.

IMPERIAL PENNY POSTAGE.

Speaking at a gathering in the Sydney Town Hall last month in his honour, Mr. Henniker Heaton, who was received with prolonged applause, said the story of Imperial penny postage could be told in a very few words. When he entered Parliament a quarter of a century ago, he found that 200,000 emigrants annually left Great Britain's shores. The high rates of postage—6d. to Australia and 5d. to India—prevented them keeping up communication with their native land. Yet every year some £250,000 was sent in money orders from these people in Australia alone to assist their relatives and bring them out. America sent a million and a half. These facts moved him to table a resolution in favour of universal penny postage. After many years they overcame the permanent officials, being supported in their struggle by the press of England and the Empire. He voyaged to almost every country, and interviewed its Postmaster-General. Now the battle was won, and a penny stamp would carry a letter from the United Kingdom to every dominion and dependency. But there was a fly in his ointment. His own country, which he would do anything for, was the exception. He would dispose of the objections to penny postage for Australia. First, every man and woman was in favour of the reform, it would be an immense convenience to all, and would injure none. When Rowland Hill, in 1839, introduced penny postage in England 80 million letters were delivered; last year throughout Australia there were sent and received 300 million letters, and in New South Wales alone 126 million. Again, it was then far more difficult to send a letter from London to Edinburgh than it now was to send one from Sydney to the Gulf of Carpentaria. As to the prophesied loss of revenue, the letter writers were the taxpayers. They had no right to make a profit on postage. Last year in Australia this amounted to £164,000. To tax